

THE IBIS.

THIRD SERIES.

No. XV.—JULY 1874.

XXIII.—*On the Neotropical Species of the Family Pteroptochidæ.* By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.

(Plate VIII.)

IN 1831 the zoological traveller Kittlitz established the genus *Pteroptochus* upon three new species of birds which he had observed in Chili in 1827, during his sojourn there with the expedition of the 'Seniavin.' He distinguished them principally by their remarkably short and rounded wings—never used in flight according to his observations, and their large feet and strong curved claws. He considered them allied to the Wrens (*Troglodytes*), and referred what is actually another member of the same group of birds (*Triptorhinus paradoxus*), which he discovered at the same time, to the genus *Troglodytes*.

About the same period this singular group of birds attracted the attention of the distinguished French explorer Alcide D'Orbigny. Besides two of the Chilian species already obtained by Kittlitz, D'Orbigny discovered a still more remarkable form in Northern Patagonia, which, on his return home, he described in conjunction with M. Isidore Geoffroy as *Rhinomya lanceolata*. M. D'Orbigny more correctly referred the group

(of which he constituted an independent family under the name "Rhinomydæ") to the neighbourhood of the Ant-Thrushes (Formicariidæ), and assigned as their most essential character "la forme des narines, toujours recouvertes d'un opercule cartilagineux bombé, de sorte que l'ouverture est au-dessous, comme une fente longitudinale"*.

Captain King, who was engaged in the survey of the Magellan Straits about the same time, likewise met with one of these singular birds in Patagonia, and designated it in his MS. "*Hylactes turnii*," under which name it was described in the 'Proceedings' of the Zoological Society for 1830-31.

Besides a few scattered notices and figures, little progress was made towards the right understanding of these birds until 1847, when Johann Müller, in his celebrated article upon the voice-organs of the Passerinae, showed that *Scytalopus* belonged to the Tracheophonine section of the Order. Müller likewise pointed out that *Scytalopus*, and its near ally *Pteroptochus*, differed from all other Passeres known to him in having a double fissure in the posterior margin of the sternum†. The latter fact, as regards *Pteroptochus*, had been previously recognized by Eyton‡; but Mr. Eyton has not noticed the peculiar arrangement of the trachea.

Following up Müller's great discovery, Dr. Cabanis, in his 'Ornithologische Notizen,' published shortly afterwards, arranged together all the then known genera of these birds in the Tracheophonine division of the Passeres. Dr. Cabanis, however, did not make a separate family of these birds, but placed them amongst the Ant-Thrushes, in his family "Eriodoridæ."

Bonaparte, in his 'Conspectus' (1850), followed Cabanis's classification.

In 1860, in the second part of the 'Museum Heineanum,' Dr. Cabanis adopted the more correct view of assigning higher rank in classification to these peculiar birds, and instituted the family "Pteroptochidæ" for their reception. Of his family Pteroptochidæ Dr. Cabanis made two subfamilies,

* Voyage dans l'Amérique Méridionale, Ois. p. 192.

† Op. cit. p. 41.

‡ Zool. Voy. Beagle, Birds, p. 150.

“Pteroptochinæ” and “Menurinæ,” the latter designed for the peculiar Australian type *Menura*. But looking to the very singular osteological characters which Prof. Huxley has pointed out in *Menura**, and to the fact that instead of possessing the peculiar laryngeal conformation of the Tracheophonæ† it is provided with five pair of singing-muscles, there seems to be no doubt the *Menura* represents a distinct family, “Menuridæ,” quite different from all other Passeres, and to be referred to the division Oscines. The Pteroptochidæ must remain, therefore, as an independent family of themselves, to be placed, according to my views, at the end of the Tracheophonine section of the Passeres, and at once distinguishable from all other Passeres by the posterior margin of the sternum being doubly emarginated, as in the Pici and many Coccoyges‡.

Of the Pteroptochidæ, as thus limited, I distinguish eight generic forms, which may be shortly diagnosed as follows, it being understood that nearly every one of them possesses other well-marked characters besides, the chief of which are commented upon under the separate generic heads.

a. mesorhinio compresso, rotundato, lineariformi.

a'. rostro tenui, subulato.

a''. caudâ brevi: lororum plumis brevibus .. 1. *Scytalopus*.

b''. caudâ longâ: lororum plumis exstantibus 2. *Merularis*.

b'. rostro robusto.

c''. tarsorum scutis obsoletis: rostri culmine

recto 3. *Liosceles*.

d''. tarsorum scutis divisis: rostri culmine incurvo.

* P. Z. S. 1867, p. 472.

† See Eyton's account of the trachea of *Menura*, Ann. N. H. vii, p. 49 (1841).

‡ The only other known Passerine form in which two emarginations are present on each side of the posterior margin of the sternum is the Australian genus *Atrichia*. Whether this form certainly belongs to the Pteroptochidæ, cannot be positively ascertained until the structure of its larynx is known; but I have little doubt that such is the case. There is a sternum of *Atrichia rufescens* in the Cambridge Museum.

- a'''*. ungue postico brevi
 { rostro brevi 4. *Pteroptochus*.
 { rostro elongato 5. *Rhinocrypta*.
b'''. ungue postico longo curvo 6. *Hylactes*.
b. mesorhinio in scutum ovale expanso.
 c'. ungue postico longo, recto, acuto 7. *Acropternis*.
 d'. ungue postico modico, curvo 8. *Triptorhinus*.

Genus 1. SCYTALOPUS.

Scytalopus, Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 89: type *S. fuscus*, Gould = *S. magellanicus*.

Sylviaaxis, Lesson, Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 274: type *S. magellanicus*.

Agathopus, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 69: type *A. micropterus*, Scl. = *S. analis*.

The genus *Scytalopus* embraces a series of small Wren-like birds, thinly distributed over South America from Patagonia to Columbia, but in the north keeping to the temperate regions of the Andes. One species occurs in the wood-region of S.E. Brazil, and another in the interior, but none, so far as we know, in Amazonia and Guiana. From the true Wrens the *Scytalopodes* may be easily distinguished externally by the operculum of the nostril and the divided scutes on the planta.

I have six distinct species of *Scytalopus* in my collection; and there are two others known of which I have not yet succeeded in getting examples.

The most complete account yet given of the species of this genus is that of Lafresnaye in Jardine's 'Contributions to Ornithology' for 1851.

The species of *Scytalopus* may be arranged as follows:—

- a*. supra unicolores,
 { minor, totus nigroplumbeus 1. *magellanicus*.
 { minor: pectore albo-cinereo 2. *spelmæ*.
 { major, totus cinereus 3. *senilis*.
 { major, ventre obsoletè transradiato 4. *obscurus*.
b. dorso postico rufo.
 a'. hypochondriis rufis 5. *griseicollis*.
 b'. hypochondriis rufo nigroque undulatis,
 { minor: pectore schistaceo 6. *sylvestris*.
 { minor: pectore albo 7. *indigoticus*.
 { major: pectore plumbeo 8. *analis*.

1. SCYTALOPUS MAGELLANICUS.

Sylvia magellanica, Lath. Ind. Orn. ii. p. 528.

Scytalopus magellanicus, Darwin, Voy. Beagle, Zool. iii. p. 74; Gray, Faun. Chil. i. p. 307; Selater, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 385; Scl. et Salv. Ibis, 1868, p. 187, et Nomencl. p. 76.

Scytalopus fuscus, Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 89; Jard. et Selb. Ill. Orn. n. s. pl. 12; Jard. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 116, pl. 77; Bridges, P. Z. S. 1841, p. 94; Scl. Cat. A. B. p. 68.

Platyurus niger, Sw. An. in Menag. p. 323; Puch. Voy. au Pôle Sud, Zool. iii. p. 91, Atlas, pl. 19. fig. 1.

Scytalopus fuscus et *S. niger*, Bp. Consp. p. 206.

Pteroptochus albifrons, Landb. Wieg. Arch. 1857, p. 273.

Scytalopus albifrons, Ph. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 15.

Nigro-plumbeus unicolor: verticis plumis interdum albo terminatis: rostro nigro: pedibus corylinis: long. tota 4·4, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·5.

Hab. Chilia et fr. Magellan.: Valdivia (*Landbeck*); ins. Chiloe, Chonos arch., Port Famine, et ins. Falklandicæ (*Darwin*); Ecuador (*Mus. P. L. S.*).

Mus. P. L. S.

I have three Chilian skins of this bird, and two from Ecuador which I cannot distinguish except in the legs being rather darker. One of my Chilian skins was received from Landbeck as his *Pteroptochus albifrons*. But the white terminations of the head-feathers, which are very slight, are, in my opinion, only sexual, and perhaps seasonal.

I have not seen the young of this species; but it probably has a brown plumage, as in other species of the genus.

2. SCYTALOPUS SPELUNCÆ.

Malacorhynchus speluncæ, Mén. Mém. Acad. St.-Pét. ser. 6, Sc. Math. et Phys. t. iii. pt. 2, p. 527, pl. 13. fig. 1; Lafr. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 148.

Suprà cærulescenti-murinus; subtùs pallidior; gutture, collo pectoreque albo-cinereis: alis caudâque fusco-nigricantibus; long. tota 4·5, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·9. (*Ménétries, l. c.*).

Hab. Brasil. merid., prope S. Joao del Rey, prov. Minas Geraes (*Mén.*).

Mus. Petropolitano.

Obs. Species nobis nondum obvia, sed, ut videtur, certè distincta.

3. SCYTALOPUS SENILIS.

Scytalopus senilis, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 103; Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 149.

Cinereus unicolor; subtùs paulo dilutior: rostro fusco: pedibus corylinis: long. tota 4·7, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·3. Jr. rufescente, præcipue in ventre, variegatus.

Hab. Interior of Columbia.

Mus. P. L. S.

I have two "Bogota" skins, which I refer to this species of Lafresnaye. They do not, however, show any white on the forehead or wing-coverts, such as Lafresnaye describes. But my specimens are not quite adult.

4. SCYTALOPUS OBSCURUS.

Sylvia obscura, King, Zool. Journ. iii. p. 429 (1828).

Scytalopus obscurus, Gay, Fauna Chilena, i. p. 308 (1847); Phil. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 15.

Merulaxis fuscoides, Lafr. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 149.

Scytalopus fuscoides, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 325; Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Obscurè schistaceus, in uropygio hypochondriis et crisso fusco adumbratus et obsoletè nigro transfasciolatus: rostro fusco: pedibus flavidis: long. tota 4·8, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·6.

Hab. Chili, central provinces (*Ph. et Landb.*).

Mus. P. L. S.

I have hitherto called this second Chilean species *fuscoides* (see P. Z. S. 1867, p. 325). But it is certainly the bird previously described by Gay as *S. obscurus*, and may probably be, as Gay supposes, the *Sylvia obscura* of King.

This species is easily distinguishable from the *S. magellanicus* by its larger size, more cinereous colour, longer tail, and the faint bars across the rump and lower belly. Its vernacular name in Chili is "*Chercan*," according to Philippi and Landbeck, whereas *S. magellanicus* is called "*Chercan negro*."

5. SCYTALOPUS GRISEICOLLIS.

Merulaxis griseicollis, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 103; Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 149.

Scytalopus griseicollis, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1854, p. 111, et 1855, p. 142; Cat. A. B. p. 168; Sci. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Megalonyx nanus, Less. R. Z. 1842, p. 135 (?).

Merulaxis squamiger, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 103, et Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 149 (jr.).

Schistaceus, interscapulio et scapularibus rufo perfusis: uropygio lateribus et ventre cum crisso rufis: alis caudâque fuscis: rostro corneo, pedibus pallidè corylinis: long. tota 4·5, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·7. *Junior* fusco-rufescens, subtus dilutior, nigro confertim undulatus.

Hab. Columbia int.

Mus. P. L. S.

I have four "Bogota" skins of this bird, two in adult and two in young plumage. I have never met with it from any other locality.

Lesson's "*Megalonyx nanus*" is probably intended for this species, and the locality "Chiloe" incorrect. Lafresnaye's *Merulaxis squamiger* may be the young bird.

6. SCYTALOPUS SYLVESTRIS.

Scytalopus sylvestris, Taczanowski, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 138.

"Capite collo pectoreque schistaceis; dorso caudâ alisque fusco-brunneis; uropygio lateribus et crisso rufo undulatis; rostro nigro; pedibus brunneis: long. tota 4·4, alæ 2·0."

Hab. Peruv. centr. Pallaypampa et Maraynioc (*Jelski*).

Mus. Varsoviano.

Obs. Similis *S. griseicollis*, sed uropygio et crisso undulatis diversus.

7. SCYTALOPUS INDIGOTICUS.

Myiothera indigotica, Max. Beitr. iii. p. 1091.

Malacorhynchus albiventris, Ménétr. Mém. Acad. Pétersb. 1831, p. 525, pl. 13. f. 2, et *M. indigoticus*, ibid. p. 529.

Scytalopus albogularis, Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 90; Jard. et Selb. Ill. Orn. n. s. pl. 20; Jard. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 116, pl. 78.

Scytalopus albiventris, Jard. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 116, pl. 76. fig. 2.

Scytalopus indigoticus, Bp. Consp. p. 206; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 20; Scl. Cat. A. B. p. 168; Pelz. Orn. Bras. p. 48; Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Hypocnemis striativentris, Salvad. Att. Sc. It. vii. p. 159.

S. undulatus, Jard. et Selb. Il. Orn. n. s. sub. tabb. xix. et xx., et Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 117, pl. 76. fig. 1 (avis jr.).

Obscurè plumbeus, uropygio rufescente: subtùs medialiter albus: lateribus et crisso rufis nigro undulatis: rostro superiore nigro, inferiore et pedibus flavis: long. tota 4·5, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·6. Jr. suprà fuscus uropygio nigro undulato: subtùs pectore cinereo, ventre rufo nigroque undulato.

Hab. Brasil. merid.: Bahia (*Max.*); S. Paulo and Matto-dentro (*Natt.*).

Mus. P. L. S.

This bird occurs occasionally in collections imported from Bahia. I have two adult and one young specimen, the latter agreeing well with the figures of the supposed *S. undulatus*.

8. SCYTALOPUS ANALIS.

Merulaxis analis, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 104; Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 149 (?).

Agathopus micropterus, Selater, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 69; Cat. A. B. p. 168.

Scytalopus analis, Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Obscurè schistaceus, subtùs paulò dilutior: uropygio rufescente: maculâ verticali albâ: lateribus et ventre imo cum crisso rufis nigro undulatis: rostro corneo, pedibus pallidè corylinis: long. tota 5·0, alæ 2·3, caudæ 1·7. Jr. suprà rufescens, nigro obsoletè transradiatus; subtùs fuscus; abdomine rufescentè, nigro undulato.

Hab. Columbia int. et Æquatoria, ad ripas fl. Napo.

Mus. P. L. S.

This species is rather divergent in structure from its fellows, having a stronger bill, longer and thicker tarsi, and a longer hind toe and claw. When I first obtained specimens of it in one of Verreaux's Napo collections, I proposed to refer it to a new genus and species, *Agathopus micropterus*.

On receiving subsequently a specimen from Bogota, I was enabled to identify it as being probably the *Merulaxis analis* of Lafresnaye, although he gives as locality "Paraguay and Chili." I have also examined a "Bogota" skin of this species in Mr. G. N. Lawrence's collection.

Genus 2. MERULAXIS.

Merulaxis, Lesson, Cent. Zool. p. 88 (1830).

Malacorhynchus, Ménétries, Mon. d. Myiothères, p. 80 (1835).

Platyurus, Sw. Class. B. ii. p. 319 (1837).

Sarochalinus, Cab. Wieg. Arch. 1847, i. p. 220.

This genus embraces only a single species, belonging to the south eastern wood-region of Brazil. It is allied to *Scytalopus* in general structure, but differs in its longer tail, stronger form, and in the peculiar elongated feathers of the lores.

1. MERULAXIS RHINOLOPHUS.

Myiothera rhinolopha, Max. Beitr. iii. p. 1051.

Merulaxis ater, Less. Cent. Zool. p. 30; Lafr. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 146.

Malacorhynchus cristatellus, Ménétr. Mém. Acad. Pétersb. 1831, pl. 12.

Platyurus corniculatus, Sw. Orn. Dr. pls. 55, 56.

Sarochalinus ater et *S. rhinolophus*, Cab. in Wieg. Arch. 1847, i. p. 220.

Scytalopus ater et *S. rhinolophus*, Burm. Syst. Ueb. iii. pp. 61, 62.

Merulaxis rhinolophus, Scl. Cat. A. B. p. 169; Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Cærulescenti-plumbeus: dorso inferiore alis extus et ventre cum crisso et lateribus olivacescenti-brunneis: caudâ fuscâ: lororum plumis elongatis exstantibus: rostro superiore corneo, inferiore flavicante: pedibus rufis: long. tota 7·5, alæ 2·6, caudæ 3·5. *Fem.* fusco-rufescens; subtus anticè rufo-cinnamomea, posticè dorso concolor, caudâ obscurâ.

Hab. Brazila merid. orient. regione sylvatica, Rio Belmonte (*Max.*).

Mus. P. L. S.

Genus 3. RHINOCRYPTA.

Rhinomya, Is. Geoffr. et D'Orb. Mag. de Zool. 1832, Ois. pl. 3.

Rhinocrypta, Gray, List of Gen. 1841, p. 25.

This conspicuous form is allied to *Pteroptochus*, but differs in its short bill with much-arched culmen, rather shorter and stronger legs, and in the well-marked divisions of the tarsal scutes. The tail-feathers are twelve in number: the hind claw is short and curved.

1. RHINOCRYPTA LANCEOLATA.

Rhinomya lanceolata, Is. Geoffr. et D'Orb. Mag. de Zool. 1832, Ois. pl. 3; D'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 194, pl. 7. fig. 1; Darwin, Zool. Beagle, iii. p. 70.

Rhinocrypta lanceolata, Gray, List. of Gen. 1841, p. 25; Bp. Consp. i. p. 205; Burm. La Plata-Reise, ii. p. 471; Slater, P. Z. S. 1872, p. 543; Sl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76. Ex olivaceo cinerea; capite cristato rufo, plumis albo lanceolatis: subtùs clare cinerea, ventre medio albo, laterali utrinque castaneo: caudâ intus nigrâ: long. tota 8·0, alæ 3·2, caudæ 3·1.

Hab. La Plata occ., Catamarca et Mendoza (*Burm.*); Patagonia bor., Rio Negro (*D'Orb.*, *Darwin*, et *Hudson*).

Mus. P. L. S.

I have skins of this bird from the neighbourhood of Mendoza, collected by Weisshaupt, and from the Rio Negro of Patagonia by Mr. Hudson. The sexes, as determined by the latter, are alike.

The native name of this bird is "*Gallito*," or little cock, from its mode of carrying the tail upright. Mr. Hudson has given us some good notes on its habits (P. Z. S. 1872, p. 543).

2. RHINOCRYPTA FUSCA. (Plate VIII.)

Rhinocrypta fusca, Slater et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Rhinocrypta fulva, Philippi, MS.

Suprà pallide murino-fusca unicolor, alis omninò concoloribus: loris superciliis indistinctis et corpore subtùs lactescenti-albis: caudâ nigrâ, rectricibus duabus mediis et reliquarum marginibus dorso concoloribus: subalaribus



JGKeulemans. lith.

M.S. N. Hanhart. imp.

RHINOCRYPTA ~~OLIVA~~ FUSCA.

et remigum marginibus internis colore cervino parùm tinctis : rostro et pedibus nigris : long. tota 6·2, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Rep. Argentina, in campis Mendozae (*Weisshaupt*).

Mus. P. L. S.

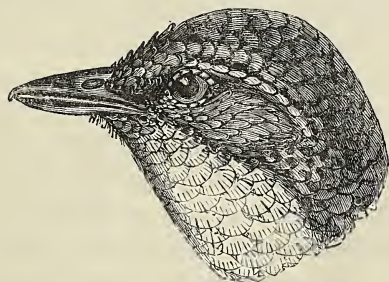
Obs. *Rhinocrypta* species secunda, colore unicolori prorsùs notabilis.

Of this second species of *Rhinocrypta* (of which a figure is herewith given, Plate VIII.) I obtained a single specimen in 1871 from Mr. Weisshaupt, along with a series of birds which he had collected during an excursion from Santiago into the pampas of Mendoza. Not being able to find any published account of it, I wrote to Dr. Philippi, of the Santiago Museum, to know whether it had been described. Unfortunately Dr. Philippi's answer did not arrive until after the sheet of the 'Nomenclator' containing the description of the bird under the name now employed had been printed off, or I would gladly have adopted Dr. Philippi's MS. appellation, under which I find the bird mentioned in Leybold's 'Excursion a las Pampas Argentinas' (8vo, Santiago, 1873, p. 5).

Besides its uniform colour, the present species differs from *R. lanceolata* in its smaller size and the absence of the crest, and the hind claw is shorter and straighter.

Genus 4. LIOSCELES.

Liosceles, *Scl.* P. Z. S. 1864, p. 609.



Upon reconsideration I think that this singular form, for which I have already suggested a subgeneric appellation, cannot be properly associated with *Pterotochus*. Besides the

straight culmen and up-turned gonys, the almost entire obliteration of the divisions of the tarsal scutes renders it easily distinguishable.

1. *LIOSCELES THORACICUS*.

Pterotochus thoracicus, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1864, p. 609, pl. xxxviii.; Pelz. Orn. Bras. p. 46.

Liosceles thoracicus, Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Suprà fulvo-brunneus, dorso saturatiore; tergi postici plumis laxis elongatis, pallido fulvo et nigro vix conspicue transvittatis: alarum tectricibus albo maculatis, fasciâ submarginali nigricante: subtùs albus; pectore sulphurascente, plumis mediis pallido rufo terminatis, plagam pectoralem formantibus: loris, superciliis et lateribus cervicis albo nigroque variegatis; pectore laterali cum ventre toto brunneis, albo nigroque squamulatis: remigibus et rectricibus fere unicoloribus fuscis; secundariorum externorum marginibus dorso concoloribus; rostro superiore nigro, inferiore albo; pedibus corylinis: long. tota 6·6, alæ 3·0, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 1·1, rostri a rictu 0·8.

Hab. Amazonia in ripis fl. Madeira.

Mus. Vindob. et P. L. S.

This bird in general colours approaches most nearly to *Pterotochus albicollis* of Chili, but is readily known by the pure white breast and mid-belly and the curious pectoral spot. It is also considerably inferior in size, and rather smaller than *P. rubecula*—hitherto the smallest known species of the genus. The bill (see p. 199) is differently shaped from that of *P. albicollis* or any of its allies: it is short and straight, the culmen being straight nearly to the extremity, and the gonys curved upwards rather rapidly towards the point. It is compressed much as in *P. albicollis*. The tarsi are rather shorter and by no means so strong as in *P. albicollis*, and their anterior surface, as far as I can judge from my single specimen (the feet of which are not in very good order), nearly smooth, the divisions of the scutella being almost obsolete, and nearly imperceptible. The claws are short and curved, as in other members of the genus. The wings are short and rounded, the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth primaries being nearly equal and longest.

Genus 5. PTEROTOCHUS.

Pterotochos, Kittl. Mém. prés Acad. Sc. St.-Pét. 1831, p. 178: type *P. rubecula*.

The genus embraces two species confined to Chili, where, however, they are both abundant and well known. The wings in these birds are exceedingly short, and hardly ever used in flight. The divisions of the tarsal scutes are well marked. The hind claw is short and curved. The rectrices are twelve in number: the tail is much rounded.

1. PTEROTOCHUS RUBECULA.

Pterotochus rubecula, Kittl. Mém. prés. Acad. Pétersb. 1831, p. 179, pl. 2; Bp. Consp. p. 205; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 20; Gray, Faun. Chil. i. p. 304; Ph. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 15; Sc. Cat. A. B. p. 169; P. Z. S. 1867, p. 325; Sc. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Megalonyx rubecula, Lafr. et D'Orb. Syn. Av. i. p. 16.

Leptonyx rubecula, D'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 196, et *Megalonyx rufogularis*, D'Orb. ibid. pl. 7. f. 3.

Suprà fuscus, uropygio rufescentiore: superciliis et pectore cum gulâ læte rufis: ventre albo nigroque transfasciato: lateribus et crisso rufescentibus: rostro corneo: pedibus fuscis: long. tota 6·5, alæ 2·9, caudæ 2·7.

Hab. Chilia merid. et ins. Chiloe (*Darwin*).

Mus. P. L. S.

This is the "*Cheucau*" of the Chilians. It extends from Colchagua southwards to Chiloe, frequenting the damp forests. For an account of its habits see Darwin, Zool. Beagle, iii. p. 73.

2. PTEROTOCHUS ALBICOLLIS.

Pterotochus albicollis, Kittl. Mém. prés. Acad. Pétersb. 1831, p. 180, pl. 3; Bp. Consp. p. 205; Darw. Voy. Beag. Zool. iii. p. 72; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 21; Gray, Faun. Chil. i. p. 303: Burm. La Plata-Reise, ii. p. 471; Ph. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 15; Sc. Cat. A. B. p. 169; P. Z. S. 1867, p. 325; Sc. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 76.

Megalonyx medius, Less. Ill. de Zool. pl. 60.

Megalonyx albicollis, Lafr. et D'Orb. Syn. Av. i. p. 15.

Leptonyx albicollis, D'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 196, pl. 8. f. 2.

Suprà fuscus, uropygio et caudâ extùs rufescentibus; superciliis et gulâ cum pectore et ventre medio albis, his nigro transfasciatis: lateribus et ventre imo rufescentibus nigro transfasciatis: rostro et pedibus nigris: long. tota 7·8, alæ 3·0, caudæ 3·3.

Hab. Chilia centralis (*Darwin*).

Mus. P. L. S.

The "*Tapacolo*," as this species is called, replaces its congener in Central and Northern Chili.

The pelvis and abnormal sternum of this bird are figured in Eyton's '*Osteologia*,' pl. xiv. fig. 2: there are also remarks on its osteology and soft parts by the same author in *Zool. Voy. Beagle*, iii. p. 151.

Genus 6. HYLACTES.

Hylactes, King, P. Z. S. 1830, p. 15: type *H. tarnii*.

Megalonyx, Lesson, Cent. Zool. p. 200 (1830): type *M. rufus* (= *H. megapodius*).

Leptonyx, Sw. Zool. Ill. ser. 2, pl. 117 (1831-32): type *H. megapodius*.

In general appearance *Hylactes* is a strong form of *Pterotochus*, differing principally in its larger feet and elongated hind claw, and in possessing fourteen rectrices. It is likewise restricted to Chili.

1. HYLACTES TARNII.

Hylactes tarnii, King, P. Z. S. 1830-31, p. 15; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 21; Sel. et Salv. Ex. Orn. p. 58; Ibis, 1869, p. 283, et Nomencl. p. 76.

Megalonyx ruficeps, Lafr. et D'Orb. Syn. Av. i. p. 16; D'Orb. Voy. Ois. pl. 8. f. 1.

Leptonyx tarnii, D'Orb. ibid. p. 198.

Pterotochus tarnii, Darw. Voy. Beagle, Zool. iii. p. 70; Gray, Faun. Chil. i. p. 304; Phil. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 14.

Obscurè schistaceus: pileo summo, dorso postico et ventre castaneis, uropygii laterum et ventris imi plumis nigro transfasciatis: rostro et pedibus nigris: long. tota 9·3, alæ 4·0, caudæ 3·5. *Fem.* mari similis.

Hab. Chili, from Concepcion to the peninsula of Tres Montes (*Darwin*); Chiloe and Gulf of Peñas (King); Valdivia (*D'Orb.*); Hail Bay, Western Patagonia (*Cunningham*).

Mus. P. L. S.

The Indian name of this species in Chiloe is "*Guid-guid*." Mr. Darwin has given us an interesting account of its habits (*Zool. Voy. Beagle*, iii. p. 71).

The anatomy and osteology of *P. tarnii* have been described by Eyton (*Voy. Beagle*, iii. p. 150, et *Ost. Av.* p. 98).

2. HYLACTES CASTANEUS.

Pterotochus castaneus, Phil. et Landb. Wiegmann. Arch. f. Nat. 1865, pp. 56 et 121, et *Cat. Av. Chil.* p. 14.

Hylactes castaneus, Selater, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 325; *Scl. et Salv. Ex. Orn.* p. 58, t. xxix.

Pterotochus tarnii, *Scl. Cat. A. B.* p. 170 (*err.*).

Suprà olivaceo-cinereus, alis extus rufescenti-olivaceis, tectricum majorum et secundariorum apicibus pallidis; uropygii plumis elongatis, castaneo tinctis, fasciâ subapicali nigrâ, ochraceo terminatis: caudâ nigrâ: fronte, superciliis et corpore subtus ad medium pectus castaneis: oculorum ambitu sordidè albo: abdomine medio cinereo, castaneo variegato: crisso nigro et castaneo transfasciato: rostro et pedibus nigris: long. tota 9.0, alæ 4.2, caudæ 2.6.

Hab. Rep. Chiliana, prov. Colchagua.

Mus. P. L. S.

So far as is known this species is only found in the Andes of the province of Colchagua, at an elevation of about 5000 feet above the sea-level. It is well figured in 'Exotic Ornithology.'

3. HYLACTES MEGAPODIUS.

Pterotochus megapodius, Kittl. Mém. prés. Acad. Pétersb. 1831, p. 182, pl. 4; *Darw. Voy. Beagle*, *Zool.* iii. p. 71; *Gray, Faun. Chil.* i. p. 302; *Ph. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil.* p. 14; *Scl. Cat. A. B.* p. 169.

Megalonyx rufus, Less. Cent. Zool. pl. 66; *Lafr. et D'Orb. Syn. Av.* i. p. 16.

Leptonyx macropus, Sw. Zool. Ill. n. s. pl. 117; D'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 197.

Hylactes megapodius, Gray, Gen. Birds, i. p. 154; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 21; Scl. et Salv. Ex. Orn. p. 56, et Nomencl. p. 76.

Suprà fuscus, in uropygio rufescens: superciliis mento et gulæ lateribus albis: gulâ mediâ cum pectore ferrugineo-rufis: abdomine albo, lateraliter et in crisso rufescente fusco transfasciato: long. tota 9'0, alæ 3'7, caudæ 2'9. *Fem.* mari similis.

Hab. Chilia centralis et borealis (*Darwin*).

Mus. P. L. S.

"This bird is common in the dry country of Central and Northern Chili, where it replaces *H. tarnii* of the thickly wooded southern regions. The *H. megapodius* is called by the Chileños "*el Turco*." (*Darwin*.)

In general plumage the present species looks like a large edition of *Pteroptochus albicollis*.

GENUS 7. ACROPTERNIS.

Acropternis, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 20.

This very remarkable type is readily known by the extraordinary flat oval shield into which the culmen is developed, and the long straight hind claw. Its ocellated plumage is likewise unique among the Passeres.

1. ACROPTERNIS ORTHONYX.

Merulaxis orthonyx, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1843, p. 131; Mag. de Zool. 1844, Ois. pl. 93.

Triptorhinus orthonyx, Cab. Wieg. Arch. 1847, i. p. 220; Scl. P. Z. S. 1855, p. 142; Bp. Consp. p. 206.

Pteroptochus orthonyx, Gray, Gen. Birds, i. p. 155.

Acropternis orthonyx, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 20; Scl. Cat. A. B. p. 169; Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 77.

Ommatornis orthonyx, Sclater, MS.

Fuscescenti-niger, albo distinctè guttatus: capite antico et laterali cum gulâ et collo toto necnon dorso postico saturatè rubiginoso-rufis: remigibus et rectricibus fusconigris immaculatis: rostro et pedibus corneis; mandi-

bulâ inferiore ad basin flavidâ : long. tota 8·0, alæ 3·8, caudæ 3·2.

Hab. Columbia int. et rep. Æquator.

Mus. P. L. S.

Genus 8. TRIPTORHINUS.

Triptorhinus, Cab. Wieg. Arch. Jahrg. x. i. p. 219 (1847).

This type is perhaps more like *Scytalopus* in general appearance, but has, although to a lesser degree, the same curious development of the culmen. The hind claw is moderately long and curved.

1. TRIPTORHINUS PARADOXUS.

Troglodytes paradoxus, Kittl. Mém. prés. Acad. St. Pét. 1831, p. 184, pl. v.

Malacorhynchus chilensis, Ménétr. Mon. des Myiothères, p. 85.

Platyurus lepturus, Sw. Class. ii. p. 319.

Leptonyx paradoxus, D'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 197.

Triptorhinus paradoxus, Cab. Orn. Not. p. 219 : Bp. Consp. p. 205 ; Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. ii. p. 20 ; Scl. et Salv. Nomencl. p. 77.

Merulaxis paradoxus, Lafr. Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 146.

Pteroptochus paradoxus, Gay, Faun. Chil. p. 305.

Scytalopus magellanicus, Ph. et Landb. Cat. Av. Chil. p. 14.

Schistaceus, subtùs paulo dilutior : uropygio ventre imo et crisso rufis : rostro nigro, mandibulâ inferiore ad basin flavidâ : pedibus flavicanti-corylinis : long. tota 5·0, alæ 2·4, caudæ 1·8. *Fem.* mari similis. *Jun.* Fuscus, fasciis transversis rufescentibus : subtùs magis ochraceus nigro transfasciatus et punctatus.

Hab. Chilia merid., Valdivia (*Landbeck*).

APPENDIX OF DOUBTFUL SPECIES.

(1.) *Sylviaxis guttatus*, Lesson, Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 274, is apparently founded upon the young of some species of *Scytalopus*. No locality is given.

(2.) *Scytalopus femoralis*, Tsch. Faun. Per. Aves, p. 182.

(3.) *S. acutirostris*, ibid. p. 183.

Both from Eastern Peru.

These are unknown to me, and not to be recognized certainly without examination of the typical specimens.

The subjoined Table shows the distribution of the Pterotochidæ in America.

	Colum- bia and Ecuador.	Peru.	Chili and W. Patago- nia.	Argen- tine Re- public & North- ern Pa- tagonia.	S.E. Brazil.	Madeira valley.
1. <i>Scytalopus magellanicus</i> .						
2. — <i>speluncæ</i>						
3. — <i>senilis</i>						
4. — <i>obscurus</i>						
5. — <i>griseicollis</i>						
6. — <i>sylvestris</i>						
7. — <i>indigoticus</i>						
8. — <i>analis</i>						
9. <i>Merulaxis rhinolophus</i> .						
10. <i>Rhinocrypta lanceolata</i> .						
11. — <i>fulva</i>						
12. <i>Liosceles thoracicus</i> . . .						
13. <i>Pteroptochus rubecula</i> . .						
14. — <i>albicollis</i>						
15. <i>Hylactes tarnii</i>						
16. — <i>castaneus</i>						
17. — <i>megapodius</i>						
18. <i>Acropternis orthonyx</i> . .						
19. <i>Triptorhinus paradoxus</i> .						
	4	1	8	2	3	1

XXIV.—On *Coryllis regulus* and *C. occipitalis*, an apparently new Species. By O. FINSCH, Ph.D., C.M.Z.S.

THROUGH the kindness of Count Hercules Turati, of Milan, I have received for examination a pair of a species of *Coryllis*, from the island of Negros, collected by Dr. A. B. Meyer in April 1872, which, after a careful examination, I find to belong to *C. regulus*, Souancé, as already stated by Dr. Selater (Ibis, 1872, p. 324). In examining these specimens I find that the true *C. regulus*, described by Souancé (from a male specimen of unknown locality), differs a good deal from the